

STATE SENATOR • JIM BARCIA • 31ST DISTRICT

Barcia Press Release

P.O. Box 30036 • Lansing • Michigan • 48909-7536 • 517-373-1777 • Fax: 517-373-5871
E-mail: senjbarcia@senate.michigan.gov • www.senate.michigan.gov/dem/SD31



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Contact: Sen. Jim Barcia
517/373-1777

BARCIA ANNOUNCES \$2.5M IN DEQ LOANS TO HELP CARO AND CARSONVILLE PROVIDE SAFE DRINKING WATER

LANSING – Sen. Jim Barcia (D-Bay City) today announced the approval of nearly \$2.5M in loans from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to construct water treatment plants for the village of Caro and the village of Carsonville. The plants will assure compliance with the new Environmental Protection Agency arsenic standard for drinking water supply systems.

“At a time when local governments are faced with difficult budget decisions, this funding allows Caro and Carsonville to offer families a basic need – safe, clean water,” said Sen. Barcia. “I am pleased that the DEQ is investing in these important projects for the Thumb community.”

The \$1,780,000 loan for Caro will fund a 2.6 million-gallon-per-day water treatment plant to remove arsenic from the drinking water supply. The project also includes two well upgrades and two well eliminations. The \$690,000 loan for Carsonville will provide funding for construction of a 0.36-million-gallon-per-day water treatment plant using the oxidation and co-precipitation method for arsenic and iron removal.

The new Environmental Protection Agency arsenic standard for drinking water, scheduled to take effect January 2006, is 10 parts per billion.

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Sen. Barcia represents Senate District 31 that includes Arenac, Bay, Huron, Sanilac, and Tuscola counties. He is a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee where he serves as vice chair of the subcommittees on Agriculture, Environmental Quality, Natural Resources, and Transportation committees.